GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1832
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2007
OPENING OF PETROLEUM RETAIL OUTLETS BY PRIVATE SECTOR
Mondal Shri Abu Ayes

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allowed private sector to open petroleum retail outlets throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details of the approvals;

(c) whether the Government is aware that prices charged at these outlets are much higher than the Government rate;

(d) if so, whether the Government has formulated any policy to control the prices charged by the private sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) & (b): As per Resolution of 8th March, 2002 Government have granted authorization to market transportation fuels to four private companies namely, M/s. Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), M/s. Essar Oil Limited (EOL), M/s. Shell India Marketing Pvt. Limited (SIMPL) and M/s. Reliance Petroleum Limited (RPL).

(c) to (e) : The prices of sensitive petroleum products are fixed by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in consultation with the Government. Private oil companies are not subject to pricing restrictions by the Government and are free to take their pricing decisions on commercial considerations.